BRITISH COLUMBIA

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highlights

a weekly digest of recently released British Columbia statistics

Prices

- **Soaring gas prices kept BC's inflation rate above one percent last month, although increases in the cost of most other goods and services were modest.** The all-items consumer price index (CPI) was 1.2% higher this February than in the same month last year. The increase in the overall price level was largely due to rising energy costs. Excluding this component of the index, BC's overall price level would have been virtually unchanged (+0.2%) from February 1999.

  The province's inflation rate was the lowest in the country last month. Rates in other provinces ranged from 1.9% in both Saskatchewan and NWT to 3.9% in Nova Scotia. The Canadian inflation rate was 2.7%. Victoria's inflation rate was 1.2% and the CPI for Vancouver increased 1.5%.

  Source: Statistics Canada

- **Even though BC's inflation rate has begun to creep up, it remains lower than in the rest of the country.** Last month, price increases in the province were below the national average for seven of the eight main expenditure categories. The only exception was in the cost of household operations and furnishings, with prices in BC increasing 0.9%, compared to 0.7% nationally.

  A weak housing market continues to be one of the primary reasons for the province's low inflation rate. Excluding shelter costs, BC's inflation rate would have been 1.6% last month. The cost of owned accommodation has been falling since the mid-1990s. Without this effect, BC's inflation rate would not have fallen–and stayed–below one percent during the late 1990s. However, the rate of decline in this component of the CPI has begun to moderate. *Source: Statistics Canada*

- **In February, BC motorists paid 26.0% more at the pump than they did a year earlier.** Gas prices have been climbing since last spring and the cost of gasoline has now reached record-high levels. Consumers in BC have felt the effect of this more keenly than they otherwise would have because the price increases ended a 14-month long hiatus during which the cost of gasoline fell to a ten-year low. The average cost of regular unleaded gas at full-service stations in Vancouver was 61.2 cents a litre last month, up from 46.4 cents in February 1999. In Victoria, gas prices rose from 51.5 to 66.2 cents per litre during this period. Consumers in St John's and Yellowknife saw gas prices soar to 78.9 cents a litre. Prices in other cities ranged from 57.6 cents in Calgary to 74.2 cents in Whitehorse.

  Source: SC, catalogue 62-001-XPB & BC STATS

The Economy

- **Shipments of goods manufactured in the province rose again in January (+1.5%, seasonally adjusted) but at a slower rate than in the previous month (+3.4%).** Shipments have been growing since the middle of last year as the forest sector has begun to bounce back from a slump during the late 1990s. A North American construction boom and recovering Asian markets have boosted the demand for BC forest products. Shipments of wood products were up 2.0% in January, and paper shipments (+7.6%) continued a seven-month-long expansion. However, shipments by food processors, the third largest industry in the sector, were down 3.2%. Manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment, who had enjoyed double-digit growth in the early 1990s, have seen shipments drop off during the last year. Shipments by this industry rose 3.5% in

Report — Employment by industry

Did you know...

Canadians who drove to work spent an average of 58 minutes a day commuting in 1998. The commute took 70 minutes if they lived in either Vancouver or Toronto. The average for residents of smaller cities like Victoria was 49 minutes. People who travelled by bus or subway spent 100 minutes on the road.

January, offsetting a similar decline (-3.4%) in December.

In the rest of the country, shipments fell in three of the four Atlantic provinces and edged down in Alberta (-0.2%). Among the other provinces, shipments increased at rates ranging from 0.3% in Ontario to 4.0% in Quebec. Canadian shipments rose 1.1% in January, led by the aircraft and parts, wood, and refined petroleum products industries. Price increases accounted for most of the growth in the petroleum and coal products industry.

Source: Statistics Canada

- **Motor vehicle sales in BC (including the territories) fell 2.3% (seasonally adjusted) between December and January.** Vehicle sales were down in every province except Newfoundland (+5.0%). Dealers in PEI (-14.8%) and Quebec (-11.9%) were hardest hit. In the rest of the country, sales fell at rates ranging from -1.0% in Nova Scotia to -7.5% in New Brunswick. Canadian sales fell 7.2%, reflecting a sharp drop in the number of new passenger cars (-10.8%) being driven off car lots. Truck sales were off 2.7%.

  Source: Statistics Canada

- **Nearly half (48%) of BC's 1.6 million private sector workers were employees of small (less than 20 employees) businesses or were self-employed in 1999.** Agriculture, construction and personal and business service industries had the highest concentrations of small business/self employment, usually in the 70-80% range.

  Source: Statistics Canada & BC STATS

Tourism

- **The number of non-residents entering Canada via BC edged up 0.3% (seasonally adjusted) between December and January.** The modest increase in visitor entries occurred despite a 0.6% decline in the number of Americans crossing the border into BC. Overnight trips from the US were down 0.3%, while the number of same-day trips made by Americans fell (-1.3%) for the third time in the last four months. Eight of every ten non-residents entering the province are from the United States.

  Entries from overseas recovered from a downturn in December, increasing 4.6% in January as Asian markets began to pick up. Overall, entries from Asia rose 1.8%, reflecting more arrivals from Hong Kong (+13.6%) and South Korea (+5.0%). Visits from Taiwan (-14.7%) continued to fall, while entries from Japan rose only marginally (+0.4%). The number of Europeans coming to Canada via BC dropped 3.4% in January, but this was offset by a 28.3% increase in entries from Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific.

  Source: Statistics Canada & BC STATS

Film

- **Last year, 198 film and TV productions were made in BC.** The number of feature films produced in the province nearly doubled to 54. These productions included the major motion pictures *Mission to Mars* and *Reindeer Games*. Also shot in BC were 60 TV movies/pilots, 30 TV series, 6 animations and 48 documentaries.

  Source: BC Film Commission

- **Spending in the province by film and television producers topped one billion dollars for the first time in 1999.** Total spending in BC was $1.1 billion, up from $808 million in 1998. Local expenditures accounted for nearly two-thirds of the total production budgets ($1.7 billion) of filmmakers working in the province last year. Most (116) of the 198 productions filmed in BC last year were Canadian. Canadian films typically have lower budgets than other productions, and these films accounted for less than half ($406 million) of the industry's spending in the province. There were 82 foreign productions, with total expenditures in BC of $664 million. Ten foreign TV series were produced in BC last year, up from nine in 1998 and 1997. *Source: BC Film Commission*

- **Despite its rapid growth, BC's film industry accounted for just 0.2% of the province's real GDP at factor cost ($89.0 billion) in 1998.** The industry's GDP nearly doubled during the 1990s, rising from $74.3 million in 1991 to $139.7 million in 1998. Nearly 10% of the Canadian film industry's GDP now originates in BC, but Ontario (50%) and Quebec (34%) remain the dominant players.

  Source: Statistics Canada

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For data originating from Statistics Canada: data sourced to 'Statistics Canada' has been retrieved from CANSIM, the agency's electronic database; otherwise the source is identified as 'SC' plus the publication name or catalogue number.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS
Ministry of Finance
and Corporate Relations

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British Columbia

Employment by Industry (NAICS)

(based on the North American Industry Classification System)

Revised 1987 to 1999

Notes:

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, Unpublished Data

Employment by industry is based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) which replaces the former Standard Industrial Classification (SIC 1980). The NAICS groups industries of common inputs and processes rather than outputs, the basis of the SIC. The NAICS also captures a number of newly-emerged industries since 1970, resulting in an expanded service sector which now accounts for about three quarters of British Columbia's employment.

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BC STATS

Ministry of Finance & Corporate Relations

Employment by Industry (based on NAICS) for British Columbia

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	(Thousands of Persons)												
All Industries	**1,374.6**	**1,435.4**	**1,508.9**	**1,554.9**	**1,572.6**	**1,620.3**	**1,675.9**	**1,754.0**	**1,792.3**	**1,821.2**	**1,869.0**	**1,870.2**	**1,906.4**
Goods-Producing Sector	**332.1**	**352.1**	**387.3**	**390.4**	**377.6**	**372.0**	**384.5**	**401.6**	**405.4**	**410.2**	**417.8**	**408.9**	**396.5**
Agriculture	**32.4**	**31.2**	**33.0**	**29.2**	**32.2**	**30.5**	**34.3**	**30.7**	**25.6**	**30.1**	**33.2**	**33.1**	**28.6**
Crop Production	16.4	13.7	13.6	11.5	15.9	12.1	15.7	13.3	14.0	13.5	13.8	17.3	14.3
Animal Production	13.9	14.0	16.8	15.0	14.2	14.7	14.8	14.4	9.1	12.0	15.3	12.5	11.3
Mix farming	1.6	2.4	1.8	1.5	1.6	2.9	3.3	2.1	*	2.1	2.5	1.6	*
Support Activities for Agriculture	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.5	2.5	1.6	1.7	2.0
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas	**50.1**	**50.1**	**54.5**	**52.4**	**51.9**	**48.2**	**44.5**	**49.0**	**54.9**	**54.7**	**54.5**	**50.7**	**49.0**
Forestry & Logging with support activities	24.6	25.9	27.2	26.4	27.5	26.9	25.8	30.7	36.3	32.1	32.6	29.8	30.2
Fishing, Hunting & Trapping	6.1	6.3	7.2	7.0	6.9	5.1	6.3	6.2	4.5	5.1	5.4	3.5	4.0
Mining & Oil & Gas Extraction	19.3	17.9	20.2	19.0	17.5	16.2	12.3	12.0	14.2	17.5	16.5	17.3	14.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.0	1.9	3.0	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.9	2.5	1.7	1.6	1.6	2.9	*
Mining (except Oil & Gas) & Mix Mining	14.4	12.3	12.8	12.4	11.9	11.0	7.6	6.1	9.6	12.6	10.4	9.7	9.8
Support Activities for Mining & Oil & Gas Extraction	3.0	3.7	4.4	5.1	3.6	3.7	2.7	3.4	2.9	3.3	4.5	4.7	3.5
Utilities	**9.9**	**9.9**	**11.3**	**13.0**	**12.7**	**11.3**	**12.3**	**12.6**	**11.0**	**10.8**	**10.3**	**11.4**	**11.5**
Construction	**82.0**	**93.7**	**110.5**	**119.6**	**112.1**	**114.3**	**114.2**	**125.6**	**125.1**	**119.5**	**122.9**	**117.7**	**115.3**
Prime Contracting	34.2	42.9	46.4	47.2	46.9	42.7	42.1	47.2	43.5	42.3	39.3	37.3	41.5
Trade Contracting	47.9	50.8	64.2	72.4	65.2	71.7	72.1	78.4	81.6	77.2	83.6	80.5	73.8
Manufacturing	**157.7**	**167.2**	**178.0**	**176.2**	**168.7**	**167.7**	**179.2**	**183.8**	**188.7**	**195.1**	**197.0**	**196.0**	**192.1**
Food Manufacturing	18.9	18.2	18.6	16.6	16.3	18.4	19.6	25.0	19.2	21.8	22.5	22.2	18.4
Beverage & Tobacco Product Manufacturing	4.6	4.7	2.7	4.8	5.7	2.4	2.6	1.8	2.9	2.6	3.0	3.6	3.3
Textile Mills & Textile Product Mills	1.7	3.1	3.1	2.3	*	*	2.3	1.5	2.7	2.2	*	2.6	2.1
Clothing Manufacturing & Leather & Allied Product Man	4.8	3.9	4.5	5.4	6.2	5.0	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.9	4.1	6.5	7.8
Wood Product Manufacturing	44.6	40.8	47.6	46.7	41.9	45.9	49.2	49.7	43.4	43.8	44.8	43.6	42.0
Paper Manufacturing	17.3	20.9	24.7	19.6	20.4	20.7	21.6	21.0	23.8	22.9	22.9	22.5	22.3
Printing & Related Support Activities	7.5	8.1	7.8	6.8	6.3	8.5	7.9	9.3	9.0	11.5	9.5	8.3	8.7
Petroleum & Coal Products Manufacturing	2.1	*	1.9	1.8	2.0	*	*	*	*	1.9	1.9	*	*
Chemical Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.9	4.5	3.9	3.6	4.9	5.1	6.4	7.4	3.8	6.4	7.2
Plastics & Rubber Products Manufacturing	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	4.7	4.8	6.6	4.5	7.4	5.4	5.0

. . . Manufacturing industries continued on following page . . .

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	(Thousands of Persons)												
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	3.2	5.8	4.4	5.2	7.0	6.7	5.4	3.8	5.5	7.2	5.7	5.3	5.4
Primary Metal Manufacturing	9.0	10.2	8.5	10.3	8.6	7.2	7.5	9.2	11.8	11.5	9.2	8.8	9.3
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	9.3	11.2	10.0	10.0	11.2	9.8	9.2	9.0	10.1	9.2	10.7	10.5	12.3
Machinery Manufacturing	4.7	3.8	5.3	6.8	6.0	5.5	4.3	4.3	7.1	6.2	8.6	8.8	8.2
Computer & Electronic Product Manufacturing	2.1	3.0	5.3	6.2	4.7	3.6	5.0	6.7	7.0	6.1	6.9	8.0	7.8
Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Man.	*	3.1	2.6	2.3	4.2	2.5	2.1	4.0	3.0	3.8	3.6	2.9	3.6
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	9.5	7.7	9.6	9.6	8.9	8.0	7.0	7.8	8.9	8.9	12.7	12.8	13.1
Motor Vehicle, Body, Trailer & Parts Manufacturing	3.2	2.9	4.6	3.0	3.8	2.8	2.5	4.5	3.7	3.4	4.5	4.5	7.4
Other Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	6.3	4.8	5.0	6.6	5.1	5.2	4.5	3.3	5.2	5.5	8.2	8.3	5.7
Furniture & Related Product Manufacturing	6.4	7.6	8.3	6.9	5.7	7.7	8.7	6.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.5	8.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	4.8	7.3	6.1	5.9	5.3	7.8	10.3	6.1	5.9	8.6	10.7	9.0	6.8
Durables	**89.4**	**93.2**	**101.7**	**103.9**	**98.2**	**96.8**	**98.6**	**101.4**	**105.0**	**104.7**	**109.9**	**108.3**	**109.8**
Non-durables	**68.2**	**74.0**	**76.3**	**72.3**	**70.6**	**71.0**	**80.6**	**82.4**	**83.7**	**90.4**	**87.1**	**87.7**	**82.3**
Services-Producing Sector	**1,042.6**	**1,083.4**	**1,121.6**	**1,164.5**	**1,194.9**	**1,248.3**	**1,291.4**	**1,352.4**	**1,386.9**	**1,410.9**	**1,451.2**	**1,461.2**	**1,509.8**
Trade	**233.8**	**246.8**	**250.9**	**263.4**	**258.2**	**265.2**	**275.2**	**289.4**	**299.8**	**294.3**	**301.5**	**294.3**	**308.5**
Wholesale	52.7	51.4	52.8	53.1	54.2	59.9	64.3	63.7	66.2	67.9	71.4	61.8	79.6
Farm Product Wholesaler-Distributors	*	*	*	1.5	*	*	2.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Petroleum Product Wholesaler-Distributors	*	2.2	*	1.5	*	1.8	*	*	*	*	1.6	*	*
Food, Beverage & Tobacco Wholesaler-Distributors	8.0	9.8	10.6	9.6	11.0	13.7	11.7	14.1	16.1	13.4	15.6	12.2	11.7
Personal & Hshold Goods Wholesaler-Distributors	6.5	6.8	7.3	6.9	8.1	8.6	9.2	5.3	8.9	8.1	8.9	7.2	7.6
Motor Vehicle & Parts Wholesaler-Distributors	3.9	4.2	3.6	4.5	2.1	4.1	5.3	3.8	4.3	5.5	4.7	4.1	7.5
Building Material & Supplies Wholesaler-Distributors	8.7	5.6	6.1	6.6	9.4	9.3	10.1	10.3	7.3	7.7	9.4	7.9	14.9
Machinery, Equipment & Supplies Wholesaler-Dist.	15.3	13.0	14.3	15.1	13.2	13.3	13.8	16.4	15.1	17.4	16.4	17.1	18.4
Misc. Wholesaler-Dist. & Wholesale Agents & Broker	7.8	8.4	8.5	7.5	7.8	8.0	11.0	11.7	11.9	13.4	13.5	11.2	17.5
Retail	181.1	195.3	198.1	210.3	204.0	205.3	210.9	225.7	233.6	226.4	230.1	232.5	228.9
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	17.9	20.5	22.4	22.6	25.3	23.9	24.3	28.5	21.9	25.1	24.6	22.5	21.6
Furniture & Home Furnishings Stores	7.0	5.5	7.4	9.5	7.5	11.8	8.4	11.0	10.5	7.7	10.1	8.2	7.4
Electronics & Appliance Stores	4.8	7.2	6.4	6.6	9.2	7.2	7.8	7.8	7.4	7.8	9.4	8.3	11.0
Building Material & Garden Equip. & Supplies Dealers	11.0	10.0	13.0	12.2	11.3	14.8	16.6	14.1	19.1	16.8	14.4	13.0	13.5
Food & Beverage Stores	42.1	42.6	40.4	47.8	42.2	44.1	45.4	49.7	57.2	54.8	51.4	56.0	57.3
Health & Personal Care Stores	10.2	12.4	11.1	12.8	11.9	12.1	11.6	12.8	15.6	16.1	15.7	19.5	14.7
Gasoline Stations	15.1	14.6	12.1	14.0	13.7	10.8	13.0	12.9	10.7	12.1	12.8	11.7	10.1
Clothing & Clothing Accessories Stores	18.3	17.8	17.2	24.1	19.6	18.8	20.0	20.3	19.6	20.4	19.4	22.5	22.7
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book & Music Stores	9.0	10.7	11.8	9.9	12.2	11.8	10.9	9.6	14.2	11.6	12.4	14.2	14.1
General Merch&ise Stores	29.7	31.8	35.6	26.3	28.0	26.5	30.5	32.7	30.5	29.1	29.3	26.0	25.6
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	9.8	14.0	11.8	16.3	14.8	16.0	15.3	19.9	19.1	18.3	22.4	22.3	21.5
Non-Store Retailers	6.0	8.2	8.8	8.2	8.5	7.6	7.1	5.4	7.8	6.6	8.2	8.3	9.5

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	(Thousands of Persons)												
Transportation & Warehousing	**87.6**	**89.1**	**90.9**	**90.8**	**95.4**	**100.5**	**100.6**	**99.1**	**96.8**	**99.1**	**109.2**	**106.2**	**117.9**
Transportation	84.9	85.5	88.4	89.0	92.1	98.8	95.3	95.7	93.2	95.6	103.2	102.9	113.6
Air Transportation	10.0	14.0	12.6	15.3	14.6	14.0	12.8	15.0	16.3	14.4	16.2	17.0	19.9
Rail Transportation	11.7	9.8	10.6	10.5	13.0	11.0	11.5	9.5	7.4	7.2	7.4	9.7	8.5
Water Transportation	5.3	6.9	5.6	5.9	6.2	7.1	5.7	9.5	5.8	6.1	7.6	7.0	6.5
Truck Transportation	21.9	22.5	22.6	22.8	23.5	27.6	28.6	25.8	22.9	27.0	27.8	27.0	28.0
Transit & Ground Passenger Transportation	9.3	8.3	9.2	10.9	11.8	11.8	9.5	8.3	11.7	12.2	12.6	13.6	13.3
Pipeline Transportation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Scenic & Sightseeing Transp. & Support Activities	12.7	10.5	10.7	9.9	10.1	9.6	9.7	11.1	10.2	10.8	13.5	10.7	18.5
Postal Service	8.9	9.3	11.3	8.1	6.7	9.7	11.6	10.8	10.4	8.9	7.8	9.2	7.1
Couriers & Messengers	4.7	3.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	7.1	5.4	5.4	8.2	8.2	9.6	8.3	11.0
Warehousing & Storage	2.6	3.6	2.5	1.8	3.3	1.7	5.4	3.4	3.6	3.5	6.1	3.3	4.3
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	**86.4**	**92.8**	**96.5**	**100.0**	**100.8**	**109.3**	**113.9**	**118.0**	**117.9**	**123.6**	**127.1**	**122.7**	**119.9**
Monetary Authorities - Central Bank & Credit Intermed.	29.7	32.9	38.9	34.4	35.9	35.6	38.3	38.1	39.4	41.4	45.4	40.4	38.5
Securities, Commodity Contracts, & Other Intermed.	9.3	13.0	7.0	7.8	6.3	6.2	8.5	10.3	9.0	9.7	11.0	12.4	15.5
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	16.9	14.4	16.5	19.8	24.8	23.6	21.6	24.8	22.2	24.1	26.7	23.6	22.8
Real Estate	24.0	26.5	26.4	32.8	25.8	35.0	35.2	35.1	37.5	38.7	33.2	38.3	33.6
Rental & Leasing Services & Owners & Lessors of Other Non-Financial	6.5	6.0	7.6	5.3	8.0	8.8	10.4	9.7	9.8	9.7	10.8	8.0	9.6
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	**67.8**	**77.9**	**84.0**	**88.1**	**93.8**	**86.6**	**97.3**	**101.1**	**102.4**	**106.2**	**112.6**	**124.1**	**136.7**
Legal Services	16.8	13.9	14.4	17.5	15.3	17.9	18.3	20.1	19.7	18.2	19.2	16.8	18.9
Accounting & Tax Preparation	8.9	11.1	13.9	15.9	14.2	11.6	17.4	11.2	15.0	14.1	13.6	20.8	21.6
Architectural, Engineering & Design Services	18.9	23.7	25.0	27.1	28.1	24.2	27.9	32.8	30.4	33.5	31.9	33.9	30.8
Computer System Design Services	5.5	7.7	7.3	7.5	10.1	8.1	7.8	10.7	10.8	12.1	16.8	18.6	27.7
Management, Scientific & Technical Services	7.4	9.0	9.6	7.8	10.3	9.9	15.1	12.6	14.9	15.1	18.4	19.5	22.7
Advertising & Related Services	4.9	6.8	7.5	6.0	10.6	9.9	6.0	8.7	7.2	7.5	7.1	8.0	8.2
Other Professional Services	5.4	5.7	6.4	6.3	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.4	5.7	5.6	6.5	6.7
Management, Administrative & Other Support	**34.8**	**36.6**	**35.8**	**36.5**	**37.5**	**40.6**	**45.0**	**52.8**	**54.9**	**60.2**	**62.3**	**66.0**	**64.1**
Employment Services	2.7	3.5	2.5	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.3	1.7	3.4	2.8	3.0	3.7	4.6
Business Services	2.6	2.8	3.5	2.4	4.6	2.8	3.2	3.4	5.5	6.5	5.5	6.5	5.4
Travelling Services	4.7	3.5	2.9	4.2	5.6	5.4	5.5	7.9	7.5	12.3	10.4	9.3	8.1
Security Services	4.9	6.1	6.0	4.6	4.2	6.4	6.6	7.7	6.8	7.5	9.5	9.3	8.8
Building Services	16.2	16.5	16.0	18.0	17.2	19.9	21.7	25.7	26.3	25.8	29.9	32.6	30.6
Management of Enterprises & Other Admin. Services	2.9	2.5	3.3	2.2	1.5	1.8	3.2	4.0	2.7	3.7	2.1	2.5	4.9
Waste Management & Remediation Services	*	1.8	1.7	1.8	*	*	2.4	2.5	2.6	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.8

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
	(Thousands of Persons)												
Educational Services	**86.0**	**87.0**	**86.4**	**88.8**	**98.2**	**106.1**	**112.6**	**120.4**	**123.3**	**117.6**	**121.9**	**120.2**	**127.5**
Primary & Secondary	53.6	56.9	56.5	56.2	63.6	70.4	76.2	75.2	80.1	75.2	75.0	71.4	76.5
Post-Secondary	8.1	7.4	9.5	8.6	9.8	7.8	8.7	13.1	10.7	10.3	11.9	11.2	14.6
University	18.1	16.7	14.4	16.7	16.6	17.5	17.3	18.6	18.2	17.4	19.1	21.8	18.6
Other Schools & Educational Support	6.2	6.0	6.1	7.3	8.2	10.5	10.4	13.6	14.3	14.6	15.8	15.8	17.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	**125.0**	**129.6**	**138.7**	**147.9**	**154.6**	**162.9**	**164.3**	**170.8**	**176.6**	**183.4**	**189.6**	**194.6**	**195.3**
Ambulatory Health Care Services	28.0	32.0	34.0	35.7	34.3	42.3	41.4	40.5	47.3	44.1	45.7	46.2	53.7
Hospitals	56.4	55.4	57.2	57.3	66.6	60.7	65.2	62.2	61.7	59.7	64.9	63.3	64.8
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	14.5	16.3	18.6	23.1	20.9	20.9	23.5	23.2	24.6	30.9	30.4	27.3	26.9
Social Assistance	26.1	25.9	28.9	31.8	32.8	39.1	34.3	44.9	42.9	48.8	48.5	57.8	49.8
Information, culture & recreation	**64.1**	**65.0**	**68.4**	**68.4**	**67.1**	**65.2**	**67.4**	**78.5**	**85.6**	**84.8**	**89.0**	**94.3**	**91.6**
Publishing Industries	9.4	10.8	8.8	8.4	9.1	9.6	9.6	9.9	10.6	11.8	11.0	13.1	10.8
Motion Picture & Sound Recording Industries	3.7	3.2	3.8	3.2	3.1	2.0	3.4	4.8	7.6	6.6	6.6	6.2	10.8
Broadcasting & Telecommunications	23.9	21.6	25.0	24.3	24.2	22.5	21.4	20.2	26.2	22.0	27.9	29.3	23.0
Information Services & Data Processing Services	4.0	6.1	4.4	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.6	6.4	5.1	5.2	5.2	6.3	6.0
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports & Related Industries	9.3	9.9	11.2	10.7	9.0	9.1	11.8	13.0	13.4	15.1	14.6	19.9	15.9
Heritage Institutions	1.7	3.1	2.3	1.7	2.1	*	*	3.1	2.8	3.0	2.5	1.6	2.7
Amusement, Gambling & Recreation Industries	12.0	10.4	12.9	15.2	14.7	15.8	15.6	21.1	19.8	21.2	21.1	17.9	22.5
Accommodation & food services	**98.4**	**104.0**	**111.2**	**115.6**	**123.2**	**130.8**	**121.4**	**129.2**	**135.3**	**142.8**	**145.4**	**151.9**	**152.7**
Accommodation Services	25.1	27.9	29.1	33.8	31.7	38.8	35.3	36.1	29.3	31.6	32.4	34.8	36.1
Food Services & Drinking Places	73.3	76.2	82.1	81.8	91.5	92.0	86.1	93.1	105.9	111.2	113.0	117.1	116.6
Other services	**74.8**	**73.4**	**76.3**	**75.9**	**74.6**	**81.8**	**92.4**	**93.0**	**90.6**	**92.0**	**93.2**	**94.0**	**105.2**
Repair & Maintenance	23.1	22.5	27.5	26.5	25.5	29.9	35.9	32.9	33.4	35.0	32.8	35.4	34.1
Personal & Laundry Services	19.9	18.9	19.0	21.6	19.5	19.6	23.1	25.3	20.2	21.7	27.5	26.1	31.7
Religious, Grant-Making, Civic, & Professional & Similar	16.6	17.3	16.8	14.4	15.4	18.6	21.3	20.8	19.6	20.3	18.7	18.2	20.8
Private Households	15.2	14.8	13.0	13.4	14.3	13.6	12.0	13.9	17.3	15.0	14.2	14.2	18.6
Public administration	**83.9**	**81.2**	**82.6**	**89.0**	**91.5**	**99.3**	**101.3**	**100.1**	**103.8**	**107.0**	**99.5**	**93.1**	**90.4**
Federal Government Public Administration (incl. Def.Se	28.3	28.2	29.3	32.1	36.5	34.9	34.0	32.6	32.7	36.8	33.8	28.9	31.6
Provincial & Territorial Public Administration	27.8	26.2	24.6	26.8	24.2	32.9	29.5	34.1	37.7	35.9	31.7	28.9	27.7
Local, Municipal & Regional Public Administration & Aboriginal, Inter & Other Extra-Territorial Public Admin	27.7	26.7	28.7	30.1	30.7	31.5	37.7	33.4	33.5	34.3	34.1	35.3	31.2

** = Less than 1.5*

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (unpublished data)

Infoline

March 17, 2000

fax transmission information service from **BC STATS**

also on the Internet at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Oct 1/99	% change on one year ago
BC	4,037.2	0.8
Canada	30,572.5	0.8
GDP and INCOME		
(BC - at market prices)	1998	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *($ millions)*	110,948	-0.2
GDP *($ 1992 millions)*	99,708	0.2
GDP *($ 1992 per Capita)*	24,908	-0.8
Personal Disposable Income *($ 1992 per Capita)*	15,969	-1.6
TRADE ($ millions)		
Manufacturing Shipments (seas. adj) Jan	3,359	15.1
Merchandise Exports (raw) Dec	2 369	6.7
Retail Sales (seasonally adjusted) Dec	2,933	6.6
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX		
(all items - 1992=100)	Feb '00	% change on one year ago
BC	111.4	1.2
Canada	112.0	2.7
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)		
(seasonally adjusted)	Feb '00	% change on one year ago
Labour Force - BC	2,098	1.0
Employed - BC	1,950	2.4
Unemployed - BC	148	-14.1
		Feb '99
Unemployment Rate - BC *(percent)*	7.0	8.3
Unemployment Rate - Canada *(percent)*	6.8	7.9
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Mar 15/00	Mar 17/99
Prime Business Rate	6.75	6.75
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	7.60	6.60
- 5 year	8.35	7.15
US/CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Mar 15/00	Mar 17/99
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $	1.4679	1.5217
US $ *(reciprocal of the closing rate)*	0.6818	0.6573
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE		
(industrial aggregate - dollars)	Feb '00	% change on one year ago
BC	626.02	0.3
Canada	604.88	3.1

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bank-banque-canada.ca/english/wfsgen.htm

Data tables on our site

In place of our Report today we have published one of the most requested tables prepared by BC STATS. This is Labour Force Survey data from Statistics Canada incorporating the latest revisions and composite estimation method. We have posted many useful tables to our site. We have also made changes so that you should be able to quickly find the tables and articles you need.

Please let us know how we could further improve the site. Keep in mind there are four main ways to find items on our site:

Search a top banner tab for keyword searching.

Subjects a top banner tab for a broad subject area listing. A link to our **detailed list** of subjects appears in the lower right portion of the Subjects screen.

Detailed Subject List found as above or under **Programs & Services** on our home. This is a jumping off point for most tables covering a broad range of subjects on our site.

Regions . a top banner tab for locating data with a geographic dimension. Where possible the view detailed maps link will take to to a map that you can click on to see detailed regional maps.

Released this week by BC STATS

- Labour Force Statistics, February 2000
- Consumer Price Index, February 2000

Next week

- Exports, January 2000

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